

# French Capture Vailly and Metz Washington Grimly Silent on Austria's Peace Offer

## SEVERE FIGHTING ALL DAY SUNDAY

Confined to Quarry Positions on  
Lorraine Front Strongly De-  
fended by the Enemy.

## BELGIANS FORCED TO WORK

Forty Old Men and Boys Res-  
cued Complain Bitterly of  
Treatment by Germans.

With the American Army on the  
Lorraine front, Sept. 15.—(Night).—  
(I. N. S.)—Severe fighting raged yester-  
day in quarry positions strongly de-  
fended by the enemy. American in-  
fantry charged these posts fearlessly.  
One was held with numerous machine  
guns and one field gun. The Ameri-  
cans drove the enemy from the point  
of the bayonet, captured the field piece  
and many machine guns.

Forty Belgians, who had been forced  
to work near the front, were re-  
scued by the Americans. Taken by the  
Americans during the night. All com-  
plained bitterly at treatment they had  
received at the hands of the boches.  
Two of the Belgians were boys, only  
12 years old, while the remainder were  
mostly old men.

It was the first time any of them  
had seen Americans. They were greatly  
overjoyed at their liberation and im-  
mediately requested permission to  
communicate with the Belgian govern-  
ment to learn the whereabouts of their  
families.

Several Italians, captured by the  
Germans in the spring offensive, also  
were forced to work behind the lines  
which were taken by Americans. The  
Italians revealed that some of the  
prisoners with whom they had been  
working had been kept at hard labor  
in the same sector for four years on  
account of their knowledge of the ter-  
rain.

## MOONSHINING AND DRAFT EVASION CHARGED

Prisoners Taken From Clanton  
to Montgomery for Prelim-  
inary Hearing.

Clanton, Ala., Sept. 15.—Revenue officers  
Sunday morning took several prisoners to  
Montgomery for preliminary hearing be-  
fore the United States commissioner on  
charges of moonshining and evading the  
military draft.

W. P. Hampton and W. O. Robbins, two  
revenue men from the office of United  
States Marshal Cain, here, and a deputy  
in making the raid in Shelby and  
Chilton counties by Deputies Gillespie,  
Atkinson and Grant. Five men being ar-  
rested, three alleged draft evaders and  
two charged with moonshining. A young  
man named John Vanderville was shot in  
making the raid. He was seriously wound-  
ed and was not dangerously wounded. His father,  
Fonzo Vanderville, was also arrested.

After making the raid in Shelby county  
and destroying a still and 3,000 gallons of  
beer, the officers brought their prisoners  
to Clanton, lodged them in the Clanton  
county jail and proceeded to make an-  
other raid in Cooke county, thirteen miles  
east of here, in which a still and 2,000  
gallons of beer were destroyed.

## ATLANTA SHOWS UTTER DISREGARD OF GASLESS DAY

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 15.—More auto-  
mobiles were upon the streets of At-  
lanta yesterday and last night than the  
Sunday before, in utter disregard of  
the request for "gasless Sunday" from  
the fuel administration. Gasoline in-  
distributors yesterday today wired the  
fuel administration at Washington con-  
cerning the flagrant abuse of the Sunday  
prohibition of the use of gasoline for  
pleasure and expects instructions  
to take drastic action next Sunday.

## D. E. HANDLY SHOT BY ROBERT STRINGER, JR.

Thomasville, Ga., Sept. 15.—D. E.  
Handley, living in a remote section of  
this county, was shot and fatally  
wounded by Robert Stringer, Jr. It  
is alleged Handley and Stringer en-  
gaged in a heated discussion, during  
which Handley called Stringer a slack-  
er. Stringer is in jail at Monticello.

## CARLOAD OF PATIENTS FROM FRANCE ARRIVES

Atlanta, Sept. 15.—A special car  
filled with patients from the front in  
France, arrived at the base hospital at  
Fort McPherson last night. Among  
these patients were those suffering  
from illness of various kinds and sev-  
eral men suffering from gunshot  
wounds. Thirty-two soldiers in all ar-  
rived at the base hospital last night.

## SWEDISH LEGATION RECEIVES PEACE NOTE

Washington, Sept. 15.—A copy of the  
Austrian peace note was received at the  
Swedish legation here this afternoon. It  
is understood that it will be presented  
to the Swedish minister to Secretary  
Lansing some time this afternoon.

## JOINT CELEBRATION OF MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE

El Paso and Juarez Units in Elaborate  
Series of Ceremonies—Both Towns  
Fly Mexican Colors.

Washington, Sept. 14.—(I. N. S.)—The  
United States will officially reply to Austria's  
bid for peace. The reply will be an  
unqualified rejection of the pro-  
posal.

This already has been deter-  
mined on, it was learned from a  
high official source today.

The Austrian proposal was  
handed to the American min-  
ister to Switzerland at Berne,  
Switzerland, yesterday.

He has notified this govern-  
ment and also that the propo-  
sal is en route to this coun-  
try via cable.

Until the complete text of  
the proposal reaches here, no  
official action will be taken.

The president himself will pen  
the reply. The Austrian propo-  
sal will be sent to him by  
Secretary of State Lansing as  
soon as it reaches Washington.

The president will then prepare  
the reply, which will be sent  
back without necessary delay.

## GRIMLY SILENT ON PEACE PROPOSAL

Officials Regard This as Attempt  
of Germany to Use Austria  
as Catspaw.

## AWAITING OFFICIAL COPY

War Will Be Won and Not Lost  
by Negotiation, Prevailing  
Sentiment.

(By John Edwin Nevins.)

Washington, Sept. 14.—(I. N. S.)—  
The war will be won; not lost by  
negotiation.

That was the all-prevailing senti-  
ment in official and diplomatic circles  
in the capital of the United States  
today. Austria's peace offer in which  
she asked that the belligerents enter  
a nonbinding secret conference to ar-  
range terms has met with no response  
anywhere. Officials are grimly silent  
when asked to discuss it for publica-  
tion. That cannot be until the offer is  
given consideration which it warrants  
by all of the nations allied against the  
central powers, and it is formally re-  
jected. But no one here in Washing-  
ton, from the president's closest ad-  
visers, his senate and house spokes-  
men, the chiefs of the diplomatic corps  
and the men in the street, tried to  
disguise the contempt which they felt  
for the apparent effort of Germany  
to use Austria as a catspaw.

When Germany wants peace, it will  
have to ask for it in its own way,  
declared officials. The revelations of in-  
trigue in Russia with the contemptible  
Brest-Litovsk treaty resulting there-  
from, are too well known to allow  
anybody to be taken in by a question  
of peace offered by a nation which  
has been repudiated by the world. The  
reply to this latest—and greatest  
—peace offer will simply be a stiffen-  
ing of the war spirit and the con-  
tinued advance of our troops in the  
field of opinion among all officials  
here.

Diplomatic reasons compelled the  
president and Secretary Lansing to  
withhold any comment whatever. Their  
intention, however, seemed to be re-  
vealed by their subordinates, who when  
asked what was likely to be done, sim-  
ply said that Gen. March would seem  
to have replied to the question on Sat-  
urday when he sharply stated that  
"America is going through with it."

Officials said today that the  
Austrian note had not reached the  
state department as yet. Inasmuch,  
however, as it is known to have been  
placed in the hands of the French and  
British premiers, it was assumed that  
the answer would be made in the course  
of hours and one of mechanical trans-  
mission. Little time will be lost in  
replying to it. There is good reason to  
assume that the subject already has  
been made the subject of cable ex-  
changes between the entente govern-  
ments and the United States. That  
the offer was coming has been known  
here for several days. As a matter of  
fact it is believed to have been one  
of the reasons why President  
Wilson abandoned his proposed  
coast-to-coast tour in behalf of the  
liberty loan.

The president had about decided  
that he would make this trip so that  
he could get into the heart of the  
people at large. However, in his state-  
ment abandoning the trip he said that  
grave international questions required  
that he remain at home. It is now  
considered certain that the interna-  
tional questions which he has to face  
are the peace drives inaugurated by  
Baron Burián's speech, the kaiser's ad-  
dress to the workers at Ems, and  
now the open bid for a compromise  
between Germany and the allies.

There is no reason for any great de-  
lay in replying to the Austrian offer.  
Its rejection being certain, all that  
will be required will be an agreement  
upon the terms in which it is to be couched.  
This should be comparatively easy  
ask in the opinion of officials here.  
The peace terms of the entente are  
known to all the world. They com-  
prise as the first step, restitution.  
Therefore, it can be assumed that it  
will be made plain to the central pow-  
ers through Austria, that no form of  
negotiations are possible so long as  
enemy troops occupy parts of France,  
Belgium, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro.

Belgium is in position to sound the  
keynote. It was pointed out here today  
that Germany has violated her sacred  
pledge to restore Belgium to its former  
state. Without a single word of re-  
paration or compensation, disregarding  
the brutal violation of her sacred  
pledge, Germany has made a direct at-  
tack upon the honor of Belgium. It is  
a move which is a direct challenge to  
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world.

## IRON MINES IN UNITED STATES GRASP



The reduction of the St. Mihiel salient brings the American army to the  
edge of the famous Briey iron mining country of eastern France and German  
Lorraine, shown by the shaded portion of the map. From this country Germany  
has got most of its iron for munitions in the last four years. The solid line is  
the present battle line.

Every member reached declared that  
it was their opinion there can be no  
consideration of any peace offer until  
after the surrender of the Teutonic  
powers. It will be the allies, they say,  
who will determine the time, the place,  
and the terms of peace, not the central  
powers.

It is expected here that in rejecting  
the Austrian suggestion President  
Wilson will take occasion to make it  
plain that the United States cannot  
accept any such suggestion as having  
been made in good faith. He is ex-  
pected to refer to the fact that the  
central powers know, and have known  
for months, the terms upon which the  
entente and the United States will  
make peace.

With the American Army on the  
Lorraine front, Sept. 15.—(Night).—  
(I. N. S.)—American cavalry detach-  
ments charged with their sabres and  
swords, and fell into light in-  
fantry in mopping up the final boche resi-  
stance of Bois Vigneulles and in the  
Forest-la-Montagne.

First the troops swept through the  
scattered ranks of the enemy, slashing  
right and left with their sabres. When  
they approached the enemy defense  
lines near Givet, the order was  
given to dismount. Although under  
fire, the cavalrymen coolly returned  
their sabres to the scabbards, unsling-  
ing their carbines and fell into light in-  
fantry formation. Every fourth man  
took the horses of the three who dis-  
mounted, and held them while the ad-  
vance on foot was made. As soon as  
the defenses had been smashed, the  
troops galloped forward with the  
horses, the men on foot remounted and  
charged with their sabres again. They  
swept through the Bois Nozard, a  
pleasure park with well made roads  
and equestrian paths, gymnastics  
ground and even a quarter-mile  
board cycle track.

From prisoners taken by the Ameri-  
cans it has been learned that the Ger-  
mans forced the Poles to straggle  
the Hindenburg line in the regions of  
Demphigny and Dommarin (north-  
east of Vigneulles).

In the vicinity of Thiaucourt the  
Americans yesterday captured an en-  
tire German hospital. The German  
surgeons, nurses and orderlies re-  
mained on duty, taking care of their  
wounded as well as the wounded  
Americans.

An American dressing station was  
soon rushed up and established in the  
captured German hospital. The Ger-  
man and the American surgeons,  
nurses and orderlies worked together  
caring for the wounded of friend and  
foe.

The Germans gratefully accepted  
serums and toxins from the Americans.  
Later when German artillery shelled  
the hospital and vicinity, the German  
doctors joined with the Americans in  
criticizing the act.

Three German officers at St. Mihiel  
committed suicide Thursday morning  
when they received orders to retreat.

At first the German commander ac-  
cused the families housing the officers  
of foul play. Then letters written by  
the officers to their families were  
found. All three stated they were de-  
pendent at the course the war has  
taken since the entry into the battle  
lines of the American army and they  
preferred death to defeat.

## GRAVE INTERNATIONAL DECISION EXPECTED

As Result of Meeting of Spanish  
Cabinet if King Alfonso  
Presides.

Madrid, Sept. 12.—(I. N. S.)—King  
Alfonso will preside at the meeting of  
the Spanish cabinet tomorrow, at which  
recent outrages on Spanish shipping by  
German U-boats will be considered.

Officials here look for the gravest in-  
ternational decision in the event that  
King Alfonso follows the announced plan  
of presiding at the Spanish cabinet meet-  
ing. Alfonso is known to be personally de-  
voted to the neutrality maintained by the  
Spanish government.

## BRITISH PUSH ON ASTRID CANAL

Successful Minor Operation Is  
Carried Out on Two-Mile  
Front.

## NEW POSTS ESTABLISHED

Following Advance North of Ar-  
ras-Cambrai Road, Field  
Marshal Reports.

Paris, Sept. 16.—The town of Vailly  
on the north bank of the Aisne east of  
Soissons has been captured by the  
French, the war office announced today.  
The French have continued their  
progress between the Oise and the  
Aisne and captured Mont-des-Singes.  
London, Sept. 16.—12:35 p.m.—The  
British advanced over a front of two  
miles on the Flanders front during the  
night, capturing a number of prisoners  
and machine guns, the war office an-  
nounced today.

The successful operation was carried  
out astride the Ypres-Comblain canal.  
British troops last night advanced  
the lines north of the Arras-Cambrai  
road, establishing posts in the vicinity  
of Sauchy-Cauchy and Oppy, according  
to today's report from Field Marshal  
Haig.

Strike Toward Chemin-des-Dames.  
Paris, Sept. 15.—(Noon).—The  
French made another great step in  
their flanking operations against the  
Chemin-des-Dames by capturing Vailly  
last night and taking by storm Mont  
Singes.

Both captures were announced by  
the French war office today.

Three hundred German prisoners  
were taken at Mont Singes, which is  
in the sector of the plateau east of  
Vauxaillon, where progress was made  
Sunday.

Vailly is nine miles east of Soissons  
on the northern bank of the Aisne.

With the British Forces in France,  
Sept. 16.—Field Marshal Haig's forces  
continued their steady improvement of  
the British line at numerous points  
yesterday, and in some places the most  
important gains recorded were in the  
Ypres-Comblain canal sector where an  
advance of about 1,000 yards was  
achieved in the neighborhood of the  
canal and in the Havrincourt zone,  
where the British captured the enemy  
line north of the canal.

The Canal du Nord, to the east of  
Demincourt, thereby giving the allies  
a better position for future opera-  
tions should they be undertaken. The  
German line was broken, and a steady  
bombardment at Havrincourt,  
and the surrounding territory.

## ENEMY PRESS CLAIMS TO BE WHOLLY SKEPTICAL

UTTERS WARNING AGAINST  
HASTY OPTIMISM

Clever Attempt to Offset Well-  
Grounded Suspicion Offer  
Was "German-Made."

Amsterdam, Sept. 16.—The note in  
which Austria-Hungary invites the bel-  
ligerents to a conference for discussion  
of the possibilities of peace was dis-  
missed by the German press as a  
Hun plot to delay the war. The  
Hun press minister, on the order of  
Emperor Charles, the Cologne Volks  
Zeitung declared.

The peace initiative should have been  
left to the entente allies, according to the  
Tages Zeitung, of Berlin, which com-  
ments on the Hun note. The paper  
states that the Hun note is a clever  
attempt to offset the well-grounded  
suspicion of the German press. The  
Hun press minister, on the order of  
Emperor Charles, the Cologne Volks  
Zeitung declared.

"After our experiences hitherto with  
peace proposals," says the Lokal An-  
zeiger, "we cannot help feeling thoroughly  
skeptical."

"Prove 'Risky Step.'"  
Austria's move may prove quite a  
"risky step," says the Neue Nach-  
richten, of Berlin. The Boersens-Zei-  
tung, of Berlin, also expresses  
skepticism. The paper states that the  
Hun note is a clever attempt to offset  
the well-grounded suspicion of the  
German press. The Hun press min-  
ister, on the order of Emperor Charles,  
the Cologne Volks Zeitung declared.

"All the ill success which similar steps  
by the central powers have met with  
from the entente allies has not taught  
the Austro-Hungarian cabinet anything,"  
says the Tagesliche Rundschau. "It is  
absolutely inconceivable what motive  
induced the Austro-Hungarian govern-  
ment now officially to repeat the step taken  
in the letter to Prince Szuyski."

"The ill success which has hitherto at-  
tended our peace offers does not encourage  
us to hope for much from Count Burián's  
proposals for the promotion of the peace  
idea. That, of course, should not prevent  
the German government from making  
every effort to hasten the end of the  
war, and to secure a result which will  
be to the advantage of all."

## PREDICTS PASSAGE OF SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

Senator Curtis Says Advocates  
Have Several Votes to  
Spare.

Washington, Sept. 16.—Passage of the  
suffrage amendment to the federal con-  
stitution by the senate within the next  
twenty days was predicted by Senator  
Curtis of Kansas, republican whip of  
the senate today. With the present line-  
up, he said, suffrage advocates have sev-  
eral votes to spare.

President Wilson is expected to make  
an important announcement on the suf-  
frage question this afternoon, when he  
receives a delegation of southern and  
western democratic voters who have  
come to Washington to protest against  
further delay in the senate.

## EXTENDS ZONE IN FRONT OF METZ

The zone of the American and  
French operations in front of Metz  
has been extended close to the  
scene of the bloody struggle around  
Verdun in 1916, according to the  
German war office. It was an-  
nounced in Berlin that allied at-  
tacks were delivered on both sides  
of the Moselle river, and that the  
court, which is on this road, and  
which was supposed to mark the  
northern end of the assault, is but  
five miles from the German line,  
where the most savage fighting in the  
German drive on Verdun took  
place.

## LAUNCH NEW DRIVE AGAINST BULGARIANS

THREE STRONGLY FORTI-  
FIED POSTS CAPTURED

Washington, Sept. 16.—Launching of an  
offensive against the Bulgarians on the  
Saloniki front by the reorganized Serbian  
army in co-operation with French forces  
and capture of three strongly forti-  
fied Bulgarian positions is announced in  
an official Serbian communique received  
here today from Saloniki.

The Serbian line is Task Vetrnik,  
Dobro Polje and the Mountain Sokol,  
which the Bulgarians had held for eighteen  
months, and were regarded as their  
strongest places. Starting yesterday after  
artillery preparation, the Serbs and the  
French moved forward, reached their ob-  
jectives and were still going when today's  
dispatch was filed.

## TO SEEK OTHER ALLIES

Bolsheviki Alarmed at the Daily  
Growing Danger to Their  
Forces.

Amsterdam, Sept. 16.—Hints that the  
bolshevik government of Russia may  
seek alliances with other powers are  
contained in a note addressed to the  
people's commissars and soviet by  
Nikolai Lenin, the bolshevik premier,  
printed in the Pravda, of Petrograd,  
and republished in the Lokal Anzeiger,  
of Berlin. The note reads:

"The position on the Czechoslovak  
front is becoming more and more  
critical. We are daily becoming increas-  
ingly aware that alone we are power-  
less. For the soviet government there is  
only one way out, namely, to con-  
clude a defensive alliance with a power  
with another power."

"In order to save the power of the  
workers and peasants, we must not  
allow ourselves to be deceived by im-  
perialists."

## HUNS RECTIFY LINES

Paris Praises Valor and Dis-  
patch of Young American  
Officers.

Paris, Sunday, Sept. 15.—High words  
of praise for the American expeditionary  
force in Lorraine. The pleasing rapidly  
with which the American staff adapted  
itself to new methods of warfare is  
praised and tribute also is paid to young  
officers who have distinguished them-  
selves by their valor and dispatch. While  
Americans are operating toward the  
heart of the battle, the German line  
has been pushed back, and the Ger-  
man staff is seeking to rectify its lines  
there. The forced retreat at St. Mihiel  
and the capture of the German line at  
the heights of the Meuse. This double re-  
coil will establish the allied lines in  
stronger positions over a very wide front.

## TWO AVIATORS KILLED ON MINEOLA FIELD

New York, Sept. 15.—Lieut. Charles  
Kenney, Jr., of Covington, Ky., and E. H.  
Austin, of Boston, were killed when an  
army airplane from the Mineola aviation  
field crashed to earth in the Flatbush  
section of Brooklyn today.

## BULGARIAN LINE PIERCED BY FRENCH AND SERBIANS

Serbian Offensive on Saloniki  
Front Has Been Renewed  
With Vigor.

Washington, Sept. 16.—The Serbian  
offensive has been renewed in co-opera-  
tion with French troops. Three peaks  
have been captured and the Bulgarian  
line has been pierced on the Saloniki  
front, according to the Serbian official  
communication, received by the Ser-  
bian legation this afternoon.

Peak Vetrnik, Dobro Polje and Mt.  
Sokol, three of the enemy's most for-  
midable positions, which have been in  
course of fortification thirty months,  
have been captured, the communique  
said.

"The enemy front has now been  
pierced and all three peaks are in our  
hands. We have taken several hun-  
dred prisoners, and great quantities of other war  
material. Our operation continues."

"The three peaks reported taken  
have altitudes ranging from 4,637 to  
5,577 feet."

## MOTION PICTURE MEN UNDER STIFF RULES

Far-Reaching Effect Expected  
As Result of Federal Com-  
mission's Order.

Washington, Sept. 16.—In a decision ex-  
pected to have far-reaching effect upon the  
motion picture business, the federal trade  
commission today ordered the Stanley  
Huntington corporation to do away with  
designed to force film producers and  
theaters to deal with each other through  
the corporation. Specifically, the corporation  
is ordered to discontinue:

Procuring the cancellation of contracts  
for the exhibition of moving picture films  
made between its competitors and other  
producers; procuring films which have  
been announced for exhibition by its com-  
petitors and exhibiting them in the same  
neighborhood in advance of the date ad-  
vertised by such competitors; making  
contracts for films on the condition of  
understanding that the lessee or pur-  
chaser shall not use films produced by  
competitors; making threats and employ-  
ing methods of intimidation to compel  
theaters to pay commissions on films  
booked directly from the producer or film  
exchanges; making threats against indus-  
trial exhibitors that unless they book  
through the agency their supply of pic-  
ture films will be cut off and threaten-  
ing producers and film exchanges with the  
withdrawal of patronage in order to in-  
duce them to cease supplying certain of  
their competitors with moving picture  
films.

## ALLIES WILL NOT SHAKE HANDS

Nor Agree to Any Hole-in-the-  
Corner Negotiation, In-  
dignant Reply.

## CATSPAW IS AGAIN USED

To Gain Time for Shattered Ar-  
my—Offer to Belgium Is  
Shameless Insult.

London, Sept. 16.—Austria's invita-  
tion to the belligerents to meet in for-  
mal peace discussions is indignantly  
rejected by the London morning news-  
papers. The Express says: "The offer  
is a German trick in which  
Austria is made the catspaw, and an  
endeavor to gain time to reorganize the  
German high command to reorganize  
shattered troops. The offer of peace  
to Belgium is regarded as a shame-  
less insult."

"The Austrian note does not bring  
real peace any nearer," says the Ex-  
press. "Preliminary conditions  
have been stated over and over  
again by the allies and there is no  
faintest suggestion that the central  
powers will agree to any one of  
these conditions. They who draw the  
sword are scheming to save themselves  
from perishing by the sword. The dis-  
ingenuousness of the note betrays that  
it was written in Wilhelmstrasse, Ber-  
lin."

To Preserve Hohenzollern.  
Relative to the offer of peace to Bel-  
gium, the Express says:

"This is another Brest-Litovsk  
scheme and part of the same plan for  
preserving the power of the Hohenzol-  
lerns."

After referring to the sinking of the  
liner Galway Castle, as a coincidence  
to the offer of peace, the newspaper  
says:

"The allied peoples will not shake  
hands. They will not be friends nor  
will they agree to a hole-in-the-corner  
negotiations. Democracy is not at  
the helm of the world's affairs. Mil-  
litarism is tottering and the German  
people desire to save themselves  
from falling into its hands. It must insist  
on a preliminary peace agreement  
which alone makes useful talk possible."

Our Peace Terms Clear.  
"Our peace terms have been made  
abundantly clear," says the Post.

"When Germany and her dependents  
are ready to accept them, they can  
let us know. There will be no abate-  
ment to them. Germany must be beaten  
and must recognize she is beaten.  
Until then her suggestions for peace  
conferences are not to be regarded as  
more than the crackling of thorns  
under a pot."

The pacifist Daily News is the sole  
exception to the prevalent tone of  
comment. Anticipating a general re-  
jection of the Austrian proposal, it  
states that responsible sober-minded men  
should nevertheless face the "proposals  
squarely. The newspaper argues that  
discussions must take place sooner or  
later as a preliminary peace agree-  
ment. There is no solid ground upon  
which statesmen sincerely zealous for  
peace can justify the rejection of the  
Austrian proposals. Discussion would  
not involve a compromise. There would  
be no question of the allies conced-  
ing their fundamental principles. Against  
the more than remote prospect  
that discussions might leave Ger-  
many victorious, there is a very  
different and more immediate danger  
Bulgaria and even Austria. The  
ally with an unassailable moral case, have  
everything to gain and nothing to lose  
by discussion."

"A 'hole-in-the-corner' is the Mail's  
editorial head over its comment on the  
note, which it describes as another  
form of an old German trick.

"The German emperor is a vintner-  
king, whose voice we may hear in this  
Austrian proposal. The emperor con-  
tinues, 'and we hear in this Austrian  
telegram' the newspaper continues,  
'and we hear it because the military  
masters under whom Germany is  
hither to been ruled, are not hu-  
manly, they have in view the safety  
of their own skins. This German  
trick has been disposed of in  
advance by President Wilson's mas-  
terly addresses. Mr. Wilson's great  
wisdom, his peace with honor ap-  
plies to Austria as well as Prussia  
and for the same cause no German  
Allied attitude is clear. We re-  
buke autocracy can be trusted for an hour.  
Only democracy, restoration and guar-  
antee and since the fresh German ra-  
rages upon French territory we require  
the punishment of the criminals.  
Nothing less will do. We remind the  
enemy of President Wilson's words,  
'there can be no compromise, no half-  
way decision is tolerable.'"

As to the offer to Belgium the Mail  
says it is insulting and only "offers  
Belgians one more scrap of paper."  
The note is aimed at the very face  
of it," says the Telegraph. "It is dis-  
ingenuous, cynical and insolent, while  
the proposal to Belgium is both insul-  
tary and insolent. Germany as a  
power is not to be trusted. Her most  
solemn compact are falsified by her  
action. We must find a repentant Ger-  
many and German policy carried out  
by very different rulers before we can  
even hope to discuss peace. It is true  
that all nations desire the end of the  
war, but peace must be lasting. It  
must be one founded upon the recog-  
nition of the independence of nations.  
Above all, it must be one which, in Mr.  
Wilson's words, makes the world safe  
for democracy. Negotiations at the  
present moment, even though they  
brought a temporary peace, would only  
postpone the struggle of right and  
might. As long as he kaiser and the  
Prussians direct with